

Plastic Bag Issue Summary
City of Kent Sustainability Commission

We, the City of Kent Sustainability Commission, have discussed the pros and cons of a plastic bag ban in Kent for several months. We researched the current state of plastic bag use in the City of Kent, how other cities have handled plastic bag bans, and gathered opinions from other constituents at the Haymaker Farmer's Market. This is a summary of our discussions, and recommendations for progress towards an end to plastic bag use.

1. We agree that there is a need to reduce the use of plastic bags due to their negative impacts on the environment in their creation, use, distribution, and legacy. We found that plastic bags are a nuisance for wildlife, often end up littering natural habitats, contaminate freshwater environments, and are currently not being recycled by some plastic recycling facilities due to low economic value. A plastic bag ban would also reduce solid waste, for those bags not being recycled, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the long term.
2. We support a ban on plastic bag use and distribution in Kent but feel that a long-term integrative plan would best achieve this goal rather than an outright ban.
3. Most of the shopper's at the Farmer's Market were also in support of a ban however we realize that we likely spoke to people who already limit plastic bag use when shopping.
4. We discussed that a citywide ban would only affect businesses within Kent limits, yet most major grocery and department stores are outside of Kent. Plastic bags would still be plentiful in the area, while a ban would mostly inconvenience downtown shoppers and businesses. Of the major grocery chains around Kent, most offer a place to recycle plastic bags, options to purchase re-usable bags, and/or require you to bring your own boxes and bags or purchase plastic bags in-store. Below is a summary:
 - A. We noted that signs are posted in the parking lot of the Acme on Main St. reminding shoppers to remember their reusable bags. As part of a long-term solution, we think increased signage near parking lots would encourage shoppers to remember their re-usable bags.
 - B. We also think the lottery program, similar to the program at the Giant Eagle in Stow has is a good incentive to encourage bringing your own bags. They give tickets to a drawing for a Giant Eagle gift card for bringing reusable bags. This is another way to encourage, educate, and reward those who reduce plastic bag use.
 - C. Target takes \$0.05 of your purchase for bringing bags, while this is a good idea, the monetary value is too low to be an incentive.
 - D. Aldi does not provide bags to its customers, but it is one of the fastest growing chains. People are willing to bring their own bags or

pay for a sturdier plastic or paper bag. Charging for plastic could also become a step in the plan. We believe that once people have a chance to understand and adjust, reducing the use of plastic may become a choice instead of forced ban.

5. We discussed that a ban may not go over well with downtown business owners, which give out branded bags with purchase. Several downtown stores use paper bags, but paper bags are not an environmentally friendly alternative to plastic as their fabrication is equally damaging. We foresee that downtown businesses might be a hurdle in instituting a ban, and we would need to offer a solution for those businesses who use branded plastic bags. Example: Kent State bookstore.
6. We discussed starting a bag share program. This involves collecting cloth bags and making bags from recycled fabrics that will be labeled with "Kent Bag Share" and then left at some businesses, starting with the Haymaker Market and the Food Co-op. The idea is to use and then return them to one of the locations, a free resource for shoppers. This program will be started small and grow with interest, we are aiming to start at the 2017 Farmer's Market.
7. There is the option of biodegradable bags. We considered writing a grant to provide this kind of bag as a step in the plan. The bags could be printed with a message about Kent's plastic ban. This could provide a different alternative for some of the businesses. While these biodegradable bags do not prevent one-time use, they offer a better solution to plastic bags but would require financial support from the city.
8. Other city programs that we researched offered ideas that could be included in a long-term plan.
 - A. Increase public outreach and education.
 - B. Institute an ordinance which fines business owners (may not be optimal for small towns)
 - C. Taxes and fees for plastic bags (ex. \$0.05/bag) money from this type of program could be used for public works projects or could be funneled back into a plastic bag fund to help support some of our other ideas like biodegradable bags. This has been the most effective measure in a recent article comparing the pros and cons.

Kent Area Grocery Store Reusable Bag Programs and/or Information

1) Giant Eagle: <https://www.gianteagle.com/About/Supporting-Our-Environment/Reusable-Bags/>

- **Current Program offerings:**
 - Entered into monthly drawing for a \$25 gift card to Giant Eagle for re-usable bag use (customer fills out the drawing slip at the register during check-out). Program is ongoing with no foreseeable end date.
 - They sell Giant Eagle branded reusable bags for 99¢.
 - There is a plastic bag recycle receptacle at the entrance to the store.
- **The whys and facts per company website:**
 - They're large enough to fit more items than standard bags.
 - You can keep them in your car so you always have them with you when you shop.
 - Ninety to 95 percent of bags are plastic, with more than 500 billion in circulation worldwide.
 - In the USA, we use 84-100 billion plastic bags annually; less than five percent of these bags are recycled — the remainder go to landfills, incinerators or become litter.
 - Paper bag production generates 70 percent more air pollutants and 50 times more water pollutants than plastic bag production; plus, it takes 98 percent more energy to recycle a pound of paper than it takes to recycle a pound of plastic.

2) Acme Fresh Markets: <https://www.acmestores.com/acme-reusable-grocery-bags/> and <https://www.acmestores.com/blog/contests/>

- **Current Program offerings:**
 - No current reusable bag program.
 - There is a plastic bag recycle receptacle at the entrance to the store.
 - In 2011 Acme ran a reusable bag promotion featuring bags designed by Akron artist Don Drumm to both sell and use as a sweepstakes give-away. Acme also used the program to make a donation to the Akron Area Arts Alliance.

3) Marc's: <http://www.marcs.com/general/sustainability.aspx>

- **Current Program offerings:**
 - No current reusable bag program.
 - They sell reusable grocery bags.
 - There is a plastic bag recycle station in the front of the store where customers put their used plastic bags. Those collected bags are then sent to Marc's corporate headquarters to be recycled.
- **The whys and facts per company website:**
 - Marc's sold hundreds of thousands of reusable shopping bags under cost to reduce the use of plastic bags.

4) Walmart: <http://corporate.walmart.com/global-responsibility/sustainability/>

- **Current Program offerings:**
 - Unable to speak with anyone about their reusable bag program (if any).
 - They sell reusable grocery bags.
 - There is a plastic bag recycle receptacle.
- **The whys and facts per company website:**
 - One-time-use shopping bags represent a tremendous opportunity to reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfills. Through a variety of initiatives in each of the markets we serve around the world,

Walmart reduced plastic bag waste by more than 38% by the end of 2013, compared to our 2007 baseline. That represents a reduction of 10 billion bags annually.

- Reusable bags are talked about in relation to the company's larger sustainability programs that help them reach their overall targeted goal of Zero Waste.

5) Aldi: <https://www.aldi.us/en/new-to-aldi/shopping-at-aldi/> and <https://www.aldi.us/en/customer-service/faqs/about-aldi/>

- **Current Program offerings:**

- They charge for paper or plastic bags (5¢ - 10¢), but do offer emptied, product/cardboard boxes in case customers forget their reusable bags.
- They sell reusable grocery bags.

- **The whys and facts per company website:**

- Bring your own bags or buy our reusable ones at checkout.
- Everything we do from our smaller, energy-saving stores to recycled bags and cartons capture the very essence of conservation. As a result, you can save up to 50% on the majority of your needs.
- At ALDI, we believe in bringing our customers the highest quality products at the lowest possible prices through a number of operational savings. Given our simple approach to retailing, one of the ways we help our customers save money is by encouraging them to bring their own shopping bags or to purchase a reusable, long-lasting ALDI bag. The end result is that we not only save our customers money – by avoiding adding the cost of the bag to our prices – but also precious resources.

6) Save A Lot: <http://save-a-lot.com/about-save-a-lot/environment>

- **Current Program offerings:**

- Unable to speak with anyone about their reusable bag program (if any).
- They sell reusable grocery bags.

- **The whys and facts per company website:**

- At Save-A-Lot, we have a responsibility to identify and support initiatives that are environmentally-friendly, ranging from recycling programs to reducing energy usage in our stores, distribution centers and offices. As a company, we are working to reduce our carbon footprint and increase the type and quantity of content recycled. Since Save-A-Lot opened its first store more than 40 years ago, our business model and philosophy have always been to operate efficiently, reduce excess and make productive use of our resources. We are committed to environmental stewardship and sustainable operations and continually work to use energy more efficiently and reduce waste. Some examples of Save-A-Lot's commitment to sustainability include (those here are relational to bags):
 - Implementing paper, plastic, cardboard box and aluminum recycling programs.
 - Encouraging customers to use alternatives to plastic bags such as reusable canvas totes.

7) Target: <https://corporate.target.com/corporate-responsibility/sustainability/sustainable-products>

- **Current Program offerings:**

- Their current reusable bag program features the following:
 - Each time a guest buys something at our stores, we offer a 5-cent discount for each reusable bag they use.
 - So far, our guests have used more than 190 million reusable bags instead of paper or plastic. We encourage guests to make reusable bags a regular part of their shopping routine by offering a broad and ever-changing assortment of bags that fit different lifestyles and needs (for sale).

The Ubiquitous Plastic Bag — And What To Do

Local governments around the country have adopted various regulations and incentives to reduce use of plastic bags. Research evaluates their effectiveness.

Megan E. McLaughlin and John M. Halstead

BioCycle August 2016, Vol. 57, No. 7, p. 38

Each year, Americans consume over 100 billion single use plastic bags, the most ubiquitous of all throwaway items. Their usefulness can be measured in minutes; unfortunately, the waste lingers longer, and can clog sewer lines, create problems in recycling plants, and pollute waterways. However, single use plastic bags are also cost-effective and more durable in inclement weather.

Local, state, and national governments are trying to manage single use plastic bag waste, using bans, fees, improved recycling and compostable bags. Nongovernmental organizations and environmental activists are pressuring the government to reduce plastic bag consumption, promoting measures that industry and retail organizations sometimes oppose. Key questions raised include how plastic bags are being used, why they are being used, and most important, what do we do with them once they have been used?

Plastic Bag Policy Measures

When weighing the pros and cons of managing plastic bags, one option is an outright ban. Another is assessing a fee or tax on plastic bags; this can reduce single-use bag consumption while allowing customers to choose if they want a plastic bag. According to Romer and Tamminen (2014), charging for plastic bags has a greater impact on reduction because it incentivizes behavioral change and forces customers to make a conscious decision to purchase a bag. The last option is voluntary take-back/recycling programs to address plastic bags at the end of their useful cycle.



Photo by Hannah Clark

A research project was conducted to understand the effectiveness of bans, taxes and take-back/recycling programs. U.S. communities that have taken plastic bag action were studied, examining motivating factors, whether it was a local or state effort, and patterns between communities. Phone interviews were conducted with municipal representatives, and the researchers studied news articles and public opinion, and reviewed local legislation and revenue documents (McLaughlin, 2016).

Case studies from 13 locations were selected based on availability of information, supplemented by online data. The case studies fell into the three types of programs:

Bans: Austin, Texas; Portland, Oregon; State of Hawaii; Westport, Connecticut; Alameda County, California

Take-Back/Recycling: State of Delaware; State of Rhode Island; Phoenix, Arizona; Brooklyn, New York

Plastic Bag Taxes: Washington, D.C.; Portland, Maine; Breckenridge, Colorado; Montgomery County, Maryland.

Reasons for policy initiation included concern about environmental impacts, citizen welfare, impacts to waterways, litter, storm water infrastructure impairment, and the excessive use of plastic bags overall. For example, in Montgomery County, the watershed was so polluted with litter that it violated the Clean Water Act.

Regulation Effectiveness

Bans

The bans examined varied widely in implementation and detail. In Alameda County, the details of the regulation were explicit; however, in Austin, a reverse incentive occurred. Its ban exempted plastic bags that are 4 mil in thickness or greater with handles, as well as paper bags made of 40 percent recycled content with handles. Austin's ban led to a reduction in plastic bags covered by the ordinance, but an increase in larger, ban-exempt 4 mil or greater plastic bags (Waters, 2015). In Portland, Oregon, reusable checkout bag use increased 304 percent while paper checkout bag use increased 491 percent (Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 2012). The Westport, Connecticut's conservation director noted, "businesses have adjusted well, consumers took to the ban with only a bit of early grumbling, and the amount of loose bag trash has definitely dropped" (Hladky, 2014).

Take Back/Recycling Programs

In Brooklyn, prior to implementation of a recycling program, plastic bags were getting stuck in recycling equipment. After the installation of ballistic separators — which act as a series of sieves and shakers to remove 2-dimensional materials from 3-dimensional containers — plastic bags can be recycled more easily. While some bags still get caught in the system, it is working well to handle the large amount of plastic bags that go along with the population density in the City (Green in Bklyn, n.d.).

In Delaware, all plastic bags must be labeled "Please Return This Bag to a Participating Store for Recycling" or similar language to encourage reuse and recycling; stores are required to offer reusable bags to consumers. The voluntary recycling program is not doing enough on its own and Delaware is considering imposing a fee on plastic bags, with revenue raised used to help stores fund their existing recycling programs (Willing, 2015). Rhode Island's "ReStore" program was very well received and was initially voluntary for the consumer, and mandatory for commercial facilities to participate. Bags are taken back essentially everywhere in Rhode Island and the program is considered a success.

Phoenix partnered with the Arizona Food Marketing Alliance to encourage voluntary participation from its grocer members. Retailers still support the program eight years after implementation. The Public Works Department uses its quarterly Customer Service Survey to gather community input and determine education effectiveness. Plastic bag use at stores has dropped by 12 percent, 1,300 tons of plastic bags have been captured annually by six grocery store chains, and there was a 20 percent decline in plastic bags brought to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF).

Taxes and Fees

Washington D.C. set a tax of 5 cents/plastic bag, which generated between \$1.5 million to \$2 million in each of the ordinance's first four years. This revenue trend implies that the tax was not high enough to change behavior as individuals still chose to use bags and pay the fee. Similarly, in Montgomery County, which also has a 5 cents/bag tax, revenue generated in the first year of the tax was over \$2 million as county shoppers have been more willing to pay for bags than anticipated. Officials projected a 60 percent decline in bag usage for the program's first year, which was overly optimistic. Conversely, environmental groups that conduct cleanups of county stream banks reported a significant reduction in the number of bags recovered (Turque, 2013).

Revenues from bag fees are used for a variety of purposes. In Washington, D.C., one cent of each five cents fee is retained by the retail establishment, with the remainder kept by the Office of Tax and Revenue (DDOE, n.d.). According to a city audit, a majority of the money was allocated for school fieldtrips and employee salaries. One-third of spending and allocations from the fund has gone toward trash traps to clean the Anacostia River and other environmental initiatives (Brittain and Rich, 2015).

In Breckenridge, revenues are split between the town and retail businesses, which use their portion of the fee to help recoup program costs. Breckenridge uses fee revenue to purchase and distribute reusable bags and educate the public about the program. Merchants' response to the fee was mixed but overall positive (Duboise, 2013). There was a 40 percent reduction in bags the first year, locals have shown exceptional support, and most tourists have been supportive. There has been pushback from some of the lodging companies as bags are distributed at no cost to visitors (Surfrider, 2015).

Discussion And Takeaways

Which policy measure is best to control plastic bags? Looking at the results and drawing comparisons between communities, bans on plastic bags have the potential to work, but may offer loopholes that harm the environment. For instance, in Austin and Honolulu, banning plastic bags of certain thicknesses resulted in higher usage of heavier plastic bags, which found their way into the waste stream. On the other hand, Portland, Oregon found a 300 percent increase in reusable bag use, Westport saw the amount of loose bag trash drop, and reusable bag sales increased in Alameda County.

Stricter regulations regarding bag thickness could result in less plastic entering the waste stream, and result in higher use of reusable bags.

Take-back programs had similar mixed results. On the whole, the take-back program in Delaware was ineffective, as plastic bags still littered waterways, but Rhode Island saw great progress reducing plastic bag waste. In Phoenix, plastic bag use dropped 12 percent at stores, with a 20 percent decrease in plastic bags entering the MRF. In Brooklyn, enforcement of local laws helped decrease plastic bag usage. A key component of these programs is outreach; more effort to get competing retail, grocery and pharmaceutical chains on board helps increase recycling habits by the consumer as these businesses are major distributors of plastic bags.

Taxes had a mostly desired effect on plastic bag usage. Revenue from the tax has been allocated towards environmental and other social issues. Overall, revenue has not declined significantly, so some consumers are still opting to pay the tax. In Portland, Maine, reusable bag sales are up 350 percent at one major grocery chain. Other Maine cities are moving towards plastic bag legislation as a result. In Breckenridge, a 40 percent reduction in bags was seen the first year.

Clearly, each policy measure has advantages and disadvantages, and it is impossible to broadly generalize from the researchers' small set of case studies. When banning plastic bags, communities studied found that paper bags should be taxed or banned as well to prevent consumers from switching to this alternative, which has a larger carbon footprint (Ketcham, n.d.). A tax on bags needs to be set high enough that consumers will change their behavior. A take-back/recycling program needs to be accompanied with an education program to make it a habit for consumers.

Megan E. McLaughlin is an Assistant Town Planner in Old Orchard Beach, Maine. This research was conducted as part of her graduate study. **John M. Halstead** is Professor of Environmental and Resource Economics at University of New Hampshire. Partial funding for this research was provided by the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station. This is Scientific Contribution Number 2680. This work was supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Hatch Project 0233237.

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Tags: Sustainability

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Comments are closed.



CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

TO: Dave Ruller, City Manager
FROM: Dave Coffee, Director of Budget and Finance
DATE: November 7, 2016
SUBJECT: Advance of Property Taxes Resolution

The City is permitted by Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code to request the County advance to the City any property taxes that have been collected prior to the normal February settlement date. Passage of this resolution will enable the City to receive at least a portion of its property taxes approximately four to six weeks prior to the actual settlement date. I am respectfully requesting that a resolution to advance taxes from the proceeds of the 2015 tax year collection pursuant to Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code be placed on the Nov. 16, 2016 City Council agenda for approval as an unauthorized agenda item.

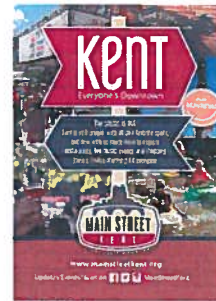


Main Street Kent 2016 Q3 Progress Report

Marketing Committee – This committee is led by Pam Petrus of DIVERSA Advertising. The team’s focus is promoting downtown Kent and getting the word out about our great events. Holding events year round, we entice visitors and Kent residents to the downtown district. We also promote the businesses and features of downtown Kent through web, email, billboard, radio, print and social media.



Good Times Magazine – We placed a full-page ad featuring the tenth annual Main Street Kent Art & Wine Festival and other signature events in this publication – 100,000 copies (Left.)



Explore Magazines – We placed ads in ten area magazines received by subscribers of the Record-Courier newspapers throughout the year. More people at our events means more people will see what our city has to offer, and then come back! (Above, right.)



Social Media – Marketing via social media continues to increase, strengthening our presence on Twitter and Instagram, and continuing to cultivate our solid following on Facebook. (We’re also exploring Snap Chat, which has a younger user base: 88% of American Snap Chatters are 13-34 years old.) Current followers: **Facebook – 9,014; Twitter – 2,411; Instagram – 2,052** and growing!



The value of “boosting” a post on social media is fantastic; for example, the Oktoberfest graphic below reached 42,603 people and was shared 196 times on Facebook, for an investment of \$100. What a great return! It’s important to use a mix of media when promoting our events and our downtown, since we’re trying to reach such a variety of demographics.

Website – Traffic to the MSK website continues to grow, with **796,195 unique visitors** to date. Our committee pays special attention to the analytics derived by Google, so we know where site traffic originates and what pages get the most attention, so we can better plan our content strategy. Because our current site

is not a “responsive” design (one that automatically adjusts its appearance/layout based on the device used to view the site), a website redesign is underway. Rollout is expected in Dec. 2016!

Leaderboard Ads – Each month, we place an ad on recordpub.com, which receives a minimum of 50,000 impressions. A theme is chosen based on events, seasonal activity, or other interesting things about Kent. These ads drive traffic to our website as well. Examples below:



Travel Host Magazine – MSK partnered with the City of Kent, Acorn Alley, College Town Kent, KSU, and the KACC to put together a 2-page spread in this magazine, which is published six times per year. Other ad contributors include The Kent Stage, Pufferbelly, Ray’s Place and the Kent State University Hotel & Conference Center. This publication is distributed in hotels, rest stops, and other travel information portals.



Central Portage County VCB Guide – Main Street Kent contributed this half-page ad (left), focused on downtown events for the 2016 VCB Guide. It’s pretty clear that there’s always something great happening in downtown Kent!



WNIR “Word of Mouth” Campaign – A new effort at gaining attention in the NE Ohio market, we worked with radio personality Angela Bellios on this 30-day campaign. We had a group meeting with many downtown business owners and Angela, so she could learn about all of the goodness of downtown Kent. Then, Angela informed WNIR listeners about the fabulous offerings of downtown Kent including events, shops, restaurants, and community during her time on the radio show. The buzz continues on WNIR, long after the campaign ended.

Main Street Kent Events

Art & Wine Festival – Our tenth annual event was a total success! Nearly fifty artists, eight Ohio wineries, several local “foodies” and great



entertainers made this event our best yet. After a decade of experience, this signature event has become a tremendous source of income for Main Street Kent. Our net profit surpassed **\$29,000** this year! Main Street Kent received the “Best Committee Event” award at the 2016 Heritage Ohio Conference and Awards ceremony in Cincinnati, OH.

Kent Potterfest – What was supposed to be a “little” celebration of the much-anticipated Harry Potter book release, turned into a HUGE event with Harry Potter fans everywhere! On Sat., July 30th, Acorn Alley was



transformed into Diagon Alley and there were magic shows, potion classes, live music, costume contests and more throughout downtown Kent. With just under 30 days to plan, partnerships were formed with the KSU Bookstore, Off the Wagon, blue / A Goodwill Boutique, Acorn Alley, College Town Kent and several volunteers to pull the event together. An estimated 10,000+ people attended Kent Potterfest, and the word spread organically via social media. A post-event survey was sent to participating downtown businesses, and of the 18 respondents, 50% reported their “best sales day ever,” with another 17% reporting “best sales day this year.” When asked how likely they are to participate in Kent Potterfest again, 94% chose the “absolutely positively YES” option. Needless to say, plans for a 2017 event are in the beginning stages. We managed to raise \$5,000 for Main Street Kent through t-shirts sales as well.



Clydesdales Come to Kent – After a couple of years discussing the possibility of having the Budweiser Clydesdales return to Kent, we were fortunate to have a return visit on August 11th. Though weather threatened to cancel our plans, the parade finally happened. Hundreds of people lined the streets, waiting their turn to see these majestic animals pass by, as cases of Budweiser were delivered to several downtown establishments.

Kent Oktoberfest – Our third annual Oktoberfest was another big success on Sat., Sept. 17th -- even with some intermittent rain. Guests arrived with umbrellas in hand, showing much anticipation for this popular fall festival. To expand this year, we had two beer trucks and additional food offerings on site, which attendees enjoyed. Polka music, German dancing, delicious food and seasonal beverages all made for an enjoyable day on Franklin Ave. Sponsor support was stronger than ever, and we sold nearly 2,000 commemorative mugs and even more beer tickets, netting our organization close to \$17,000.



Design Committee – The Design Committee is led by Jeff Meyers of DS Architecture, and is a diverse group of professionals with expertise in many aspects of design including landscape, graphics, architecture and more. The Design Committee is intended to be the “designing voice of the Kent community.”



Kent Creativity Festival - Members of this committee were actively involved in planning the Kent Creativity Festival (www.kent.edu/kcf), which took place on Sat., Sept. 24th on the Lester A. Lefton Esplanade — a great collaborative effort where community members of all ages could be an artist for the day!

Inside|Out – The Akron Art Museum brought this program to Kent; Main Street Kent and the Kent State College of the Arts worked with the program coordinator to select the sites, secure installation agreements with building owners, and roll the program out for its 3-month stay here in Kent. It’s only here until the end of October, but it has been a welcome addition to our downtown public art scene!

<https://akronartmuseum.org/inside-out>



Clean Up Kent Day – On April 27th, volunteers gathered to clean up trash and eliminate graffiti in the downtown district. Scouts, Kent State students, committee members, and other community volunteers worked for over three hours to get the job done, making a lasting positive impact on our beautiful downtown. Another Clean Up Kent Day took place on Sat., Oct. 22nd with a great turnout by Kent State students doing their part for “National Make A Difference Day.” Maintenance is key to a clean, beautiful downtown.

Graffiti Clean Up – On August 9th, several volunteers spent the morning cleaning up a number of downtown areas hit by graffiti. Rather than waiting until the next official clean up day, it’s important to get rid of graffiti quickly, so it doesn’t “spread.”



Adopt-A-Spot – On May 28th, our Adopt-A-Spot volunteer gardeners met at the PARTA facility to pick up their flowers for planting day! This year, we changed flower vendors and were thrilled with the results. Pettiti’s Garden Center has delivered a wonderful product and their staff has been very helpful to us. We also chose a new vendor for our hanging flower baskets, and are thrilled with the beautiful baskets provided by Battaglia’s. Additionally, we have consulted with KSU grounds keeper Bekkah Berryhill on plant selection and care, resulting in additional improvements.



Business Enhancement Committee – The Business Enhancement Committee is led by Eric Decker, a board member from Portage Community Bank. The focus remains on driving traffic through the doors of older business as well as newer ones. In addition, the committee searches out opportunities for the businesses to work together, whether on an event, a promotion, or otherwise.



Chocolate Walk – Feb. 6, 2016. For four years, this event has been a popular downtown adventure, generating profits for Main Street Kent and great foot traffic for participating businesses. Two hundred

tickets were sold at \$20 each. Business owners met many new customers and had great sales during the event. This year, the Kent State University Hotel & Conference Center donated an overnight stay, dinner for two at the Nineteen 10 restaurant, and a bottle of champagne for our big drawing, in which all attendees were entered to win. Guests drove from over an hour away to be a part of this popular event, which kicked off at the Destination Kent Visitor Centre.



Seven Courses of Kent – April 17, 2016. This event took place at Laziza, where seven local eateries presented their best dishes to our guests. Each course was paired with a beer or wine selection hand-picked by Heidelberg Distributing. \$60 per ticket included meal, pairings, service, tax and gratuity. Sixty tickets were sold, proceeds benefited Main Street Kent, and this was a huge HIT! Guests were thrilled with the variety and quality of food, and the opportunity to try seven different eateries in one evening. We will definitely repeat this event.

Sidewalk Sale – On Sat., June 25th, College Town Kent held their annual “Summer Tour” offering free samples, fun activities, sales, etc. so we invited the rest of the downtown businesses to partake in a citywide Sidewalk Sale! If people are coming downtown for one reason, we like to give them even more reasons to stay...and spend.

Operations Committee – Leadership for MSK is based in our Executive Committee:

- President – Mike Finley, VP – Regan Gettens, Treasurer – Mike Lewis, Secretary – Joan Conaway
- **Annual Evaluation** – Our annual evaluation with Heritage Ohio took place on February 12th. Main Street Kent is recognized as “proficient” in the ten criteria set by the National Main Street Center, scoring a **99/100!**

- **Annual Awards Celebration** – The Main Street Kent awards celebration was held on Thurs., June 16th at the Kent Historical Society Museum. Locally handmade ceramic tile awards containing the Main Street Kent image were presented to the following winners:



President's Award – Mike Beder; Volunteer of the Year – Mary Organ; Small Business of the Year – McKay Bricker; Large Business of the Year – College Town Kent; the Ronald Burbick Award – Kent City Council; and Non-profit of the Year – the Kent community, in honor of the Dan Smith Community Park. We celebrated another successful year of work in downtown Kent, and all of the people who make it possible.



- **Strategic Planning** – We are continually focused on succession planning for our Board of Directors, fundraising, and the overall sustainability of our downtown. This is reflected in our plans and projects on the committee level. Plans are in the works for a long-term strategic planning session for our organization in early 2017.

- **New Board Member Recruitment** – The MSK Board of Directors continues to grow and diversify. In 2016, these new members joined the team:
 - Julie Kenworthy – Kent Historical Society
 - Todd Kamenash – Kent State University



Pictured: (back row, left to right) Mike Lewis, Regan Gettens, Tom Wilke, Eric Decker, Mike Finley, Mike Beder; (front row, left to right) Julie Kenworthy, Jeff Meyers, Heather Malarcik, Pam Petrus, Joan Conaway, Mike Carr

Not pictured: Tom Hatch, Todd Kamenash, Lesley Sickle (staff), Nancy Whitehead

Volunteers – We could not accomplish our mission without the help of our volunteers. This includes our Board of Directors, committee members, and all of the great people who dedicate their valuable time to various Main Street Kent projects and events. Volunteers are our greatest assets!

Jan. 51 hrs + Feb. 77 hrs + Mar. 62 + Apr. 305 hrs + May 209 hrs + June 233 hrs +

July 246 hrs + Aug. 145 hrs + Sept. 327 hrs = **TOTAL YTD = 1,655 hours!**



We greatly appreciate the ongoing support of the City of Kent! We look forward to continuing our partnership with all of the organizations (<http://www.mainstreetkent.org/our-supporters>) that help us continue our mission: ***Working to strengthen and beautify downtown Kent while fostering economic development, historic preservation, and a sense of community.***

Main Street Kent
2016 INCOME ELIGIBLE FOR CITY MATCH
 January - September, 2016

	TOTAL
Income	
4030 Corporate Sponsors & Foundations	1,000.00
4031 Board Member Donations	1,675.00
4034 Art Wine Sponsorship	4,838.45
4040 Friend of Main Street Kent	3,892.15
4048 Legacy Partners (10k+)	4,750.00
4050 Progressive Event Sponsors	2,200.00
4057 Round Town Music Festival Sponsors	2,500.00
Total 4030 Corporate Sponsors & Foundations	20,855.60
4065 Fundraisers	
4071 Annual Dinner Income	2,247.43
4073 Art & Wine Festival Income	156.07
4075 Artists payments for festival	2,505.00
4079 Wine Sales / Raffle Sales	38,528.94
4081 Winery payments for Festival	2,150.00
Total 4073 Art & Wine Festival Income	43,340.01
4083 Chocolate Walk Income	3,877.88
4088 International Festival Income	-25.00
4091 Progressive Events Income	3,520.41
4096 Oktoberfest Sales	27,479.51
4097 4097 Oktoberfest Sponsorship	3,500.00
Total 4096 Oktoberfest Sales	30,979.51
Total 4065 Fundraisers	83,940.24
4100 In Kind Donations	865.80
4150 Marketing & Advertising Campaigns	7,872.00
4198 Membership Dues	-987.50
Total Income	\$112,546.14
Gross Profit	\$112,546.14
Expenses	
Total Expenses	
Net Operating Income	\$112,546.14
Net Income	\$112,546.14

Tuesday, Oct 18, 2016 02:01:11 PM PDT GMT-4 - Cash Basis

KENT HEALTH DEPARTMENT STATISTICAL REPORT 2016

3. A.

	Oct. 2016	YTD 2016	Oct. 2015	YTD 2015
HEALTH DEPT. \$ COLLECTED				
FamAbuse fund	\$ 1,105.50	\$ 11,329.54	\$ 1,066.50	\$ 10,753.55
Vital Stats Rev.	\$ 6,264.50	\$ 64,243.00	\$ 6,043.50	\$ 60,991.00
Child Abuse	\$ 2,211.00	\$ 22,673.46	\$ 2,133.00	\$ 21,506.95
State VS	\$ 6,633.00	\$ 68,031.00	\$ 6,399.00	\$ 64,466.50
B Perm Rev	\$ 20.00	\$ 272.50	\$ 24.00	\$ 279.00
B Perm State	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,365.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 1,395.00
Food Estab.	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 27,559.25	\$ 400.00	\$ 23,816.25
Food Service	\$ 1,326.00	\$ 77,764.75	\$ 313.00	\$ 71,110.50
SolWst Tickets	\$ 90.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,000.00
Housing	\$ 8,776.25	\$ 103,308.75	\$ 8,813.75	\$ 109,083.25
Swim Pools	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,102.50	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,765.00
SolWst(Trks)	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,950.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,500.00
Tattoo Parlors	\$ 0.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,050.00
*Misc(Xerox, etc.)	\$ 3.50	\$ 7,844.25	\$ 3.00	\$ 8,745.48
Xerox coples	\$ 0.00	\$ 14,761.50	\$ 0.00	\$ 830.00
MAC Claiming	\$ 0.00	\$ 15,917.94	\$ 0.00	\$ 24,631.88
Tobacco Grant	\$ 0.00	\$ 14,300.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
**ST Subsidy	\$ 0.00	\$ 22,882.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 25,259.00
TOTAL COLLECTED	\$ 29,029.75	\$ 464,605.44	\$ 25,415.75	\$ 434,183.36
TO STATE				
FamAbuse fund	\$ 1,072.33	\$ 10,024.91	\$ 1,034.49	\$ 10,430.82
Food Estabs	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,568.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,568.00
Bur.Permits	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,365.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 1,395.00
Child Abuse	\$ 2,144.67	\$ 21,993.28	\$ 2,069.01	\$ 20,861.74
State VS QTRLY	\$ 6,633.00	\$ 68,031.00	\$ 6,399.00	\$ 64,466.50
Food Service	\$ 56.00	\$ 6,816.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 4,108.00
Food Vendors*	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 132.00
Swim Pools	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,365.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,365.00
Wells	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 10,006.00	\$ 111,163.19	\$ 9,650.50	\$ 104,327.06
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 19,023.75	\$ 353,442.25	\$ 15,765.25	\$ 329,856.30
+Admin fee to Vital Stats	\$ 99.51	\$ 1,020.16	\$ 96.00	\$ 967.99
-3% FamAbuse	\$ 33.18	\$ 339.98	\$ 32.01	\$ 322.78
-3% ChildAbuse	\$ 66.33	\$ 680.18	\$ 63.99	\$ 645.21

STATISTICAL REPORT Cont.	Oct. 2016	YTD 2016	Oct. 2015	YTD 2015
PERMIT/lic.				
Food Estabs	0	50	1	58
Food Service (2 Temps)	2	141	0	138
FS Vending	0	23	0	22
Home Sewage	0	0	0	0
Housing	12	244	17	235
Solid Waste	0	43	0	11
Swim Pools	0	18	0	19
Septic Haul.	0	0	0	0
Tattoo Parlors	0	4	0	3
Other	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	14	523	18	487
MOSQ.CONT.				
Larvacide Hrs.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Adulticide Hrs.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tot Man Hrs	0.0	256.5	0.0	461.0
COMPLAINTS				
Received	14	79	6	163
Abated	7	67	6	152
LEGAL.COMPL.				
Filed	0	0	0	1
Pre-trials	0	0	0	1
Trials	0	0	0	0
COMM.DISEASE (not available)	0	77	0	66
IMMUNIZATIONS	39	260	70	184
BIRTH Copies issued	300	3265	221	2960
DEATH Copies issued	437	4292	490	3719